

News From Bay County Executive Tom Hickner

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Board Meetings Until Year End



November 23rd

Special Board of
Commissioner's
Meeting

December 7th

Personnel Judicial,
Human Services &
Ways & Means
Committee
Meetings

Bay County Mosquito Control is Key Collaborator in New "Green Chemistry" Mosquito Larvicide

Bay County Mosquito Control has been involved in two field trials using a new, organic water treatment product, Natular™, which controls mosquito larval breeding with a lower toxicity rate. This new larvicide has proven successful in controlling both woodland and container-breeding mosquito species found throughout Bay County. Field trials conducted by Bay County Mosquito Control personnel led to significant data that helped make the case to the EPA that Natular was both effective and could be categorized as 'Reduced Risk'.



Natular was developed and manufactured by Clarke, a global environmental products and services company, and was a recipient of the 2010 U.S. EPA Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge Award. Clarke received the award at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. on June 21, 2010. This award recognizes outstanding chemical technologies that incorporate the principles of green chemistry into chemical design and distinguishes innovative researchers making significant contributions to pollution prevention in the U.S. Natular was just the fifth pesticide ever to receive this recognition and the first public health product. It was also the first new larvicide available to mosquito control districts in three decades.

Bay County Mosquito Control was proud to be one of the few mosquito control districts in the U.S. chosen to run initial field trials. We are also proud to be an early adopter of this new, green chemistry along with reducing the amount of pesticide used to control mosquitoes.

For more information, check out the [press release](#) or visit the [website](#).

Winter Hazards Awareness Week was November 7-13

The week of November 7th through the 13th has been declared Winter Hazards Awareness Week in Michigan. All citizens are urged to learn more about protecting themselves, their families, and their homes during the winter season.

It does not take record-breaking low temperatures or mountains of snow to make winter in Michigan dangerous. The usual parade of winter storms brings abrupt changes in

December 14th

Board of
Commissioner's
Meeting

*All meetings start at 4:00 p.m. in the Board chambers on the 4th floor of the Bay County Building, 515 Center Avenue.



Bay County Government Offices Closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday



Bay County Government offices will be closed on Thursday, November 25th and Friday, November 26th in observance of Thanksgiving.

The 24-hour operations, such as 9-1-1 and the Sheriff's office will remain open.

Happy

weather. These changes can quickly turn enjoyment of the season into tragedy.

For more information to prepare yourself and your family for potential severe winter weather, see the [Winter Safety Tips](#) handout or the [MCSWA](#) website.

The Recently Opened Cattery has Resulted in Higher Feline Adoption Rates

Bay County Animal Control recently installed a Cattery. It is a 7-foot-tall cat playground / condo which allows visitors to observe the playfulness, sociability, personality and appearance of the individual animals. The intent of the cattery is to provide a place where the cats can be viewed in a more favorable light in order to promote and increase feline adoptions.



Animal Control Manager Mike Halstead reported the establishment of a cattery at their facility has, indeed, increased the amount of feline adoptions. Eleven adult, female cats have been adopted since the completion of the cattery on November 1st.

A cat on top of a section of the new Cattery

An [Animal Control Facility Update](#) video segment, produced by Bay3TV, can be found on our webpage.

For more information, see the [Bay City Times article](#), the [Animal Control website](#) or stop in to the shelter at 800 Livingston to see the cats (and dogs) available for adoption!

Information from Division on Aging Medicare Part D Help Sessions

Open enrollment for the Prescription Drug Plan Coverage (Medicare Part D) begins November 15 and ends December 31. This program is for those enrolled in Medicare who have no other creditable prescription



drug coverage. If you are just turning 65, this would be your first opportunity to sign up for one of the drug plans. If you are already enrolled, this is your opportunity to review the various plans in relation to the drugs you take regularly. You may switch plans only during the open enrollment period of November 15 to December 31.

To make an appointment with a trained MMAP counselor, call Michigan Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program (MMAP) at 1-800-803-7174. Please bring the following:

1. List of current prescription drugs/dosages
2. Social Security number
3. Medicare card
4. Letter from current prescription carrier (only if you are

Thanksgiving!

being dropped by your current carrier)
5. Information on monthly resources

If you have any questions, please visit the [medicare website](#).

Sincerely,

Tom Hickner
Bay County

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